

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WATER AND LIGHT COMMISSION

October 14, 2015

Draft

Commission President Allwardt called the Special Meeting of the Water and Light Commission to order at 5:02 p.m., with Commissioners Don Merkes, and James Smolinski present on roll call. Also present were Melanie Krause, General Manager; Steve Grenell, Engineering Manager; Tim Gosz, Water Utility Manager; Kristin Hubertus, Finance Manager; Paula Maurer, Customer Services Manager; John Teale, Technical Services Engineer; and Dawn Lucier, Administrative and Accounting Assistant.

Those excused were William Menting, Electric Manager, and Commissioner Zelinski. Commissioner Kordus arrived at 5:47 p.m.

Commission President Allwardt introduced Commissioner James Smolinski to staff.

Item II. No one from the Gallery was heard on any topic of public concern to the Utility.

Item III. New Business, Loss of Load Analysis – General Manager Krause discussed the potential rate impacts on customers if there was a significant loss of load in a particular class, as outlined in the chart provided. Key factors were detailed along with ways to mitigate the risks.

Commissioner Merkes asked staff to create a comparison of how changes to fixed charges would impact the average customer, low use customer, and high use customer during the next rate case.

Technology Plan – A draft technology plan was included in the packet which highlights current technology reliance; risk management; initiatives to explore; and different technologies that may be implemented within Menasha Utilities.

Commissioner Allwardt asked to have the Technology Plan brought back for more discussion at the January 2016 meeting.

Strategic Plan & 2016 Electric, Water, Telecommunications & Energy Services Budget Review & Approval – An outline of accomplishments during 2015 and a listing of investment accounts were included with the 2016 Budget and Strategic Plan.

Commissioner Merkes asked to have staff research the water consumption decrease in 2009 and bring their findings back to the Commission.

Health Insurance quotes are beginning to come in and will be discussed at a future commission meeting.

The 2016 Water Utility Financial Report was based on water consumption calculated using a 3 year average along with the Town of Menasha resale consumption projections. The 2015 projected actual column includes actual numbers through August and budgeted numbers for the

remainder of the year. Staff will continue to watch trending of revenue and expenses and work with the city of Menasha to coordinate water main replacements.

Commissioner Kordus arrived.

The Commission would like the Water Utility to fund a separate item in the budget for painting the City of Menasha logo on the island water tower.

Commissioner Merkes asked staff to create a broader plan for beautification of the high lift pump station surface once a decision has been reached regarding Winz Park.

2016 Telecommunications internet sales decreased due to loss of the Midway Road strip mall customers.

The 2016 Electric Utility Financial report utilized 2 year trending and customer discussions to budget 568,110,451 kWh with the average cost of power at \$74.25/MWh; this would be an increase of 2.8% over 2015 WPPI budgeted costs. The Administrative & General expenses budget increase was due mainly to wage re-allocations & increased health insurance; the Distribution expenses budget increased primarily from additional time allocated for tree trimming and the maintenance fee for the work order software.

The Commission asked to have more information on the software capabilities and payback potential before purchasing Computers item #10, Plantworks/Mapworks software.

In Electric Distribution, the Commission would like to see more year-to-year consistency with budgeted amounts for item #8, vehicle/equipment replacement and updates if new acquisitions are found.

The motion by Comm. Allwardt, seconded by Comm. Merkes was unanimously approved on roll call to approve the Strategic Plan & 2016 Electric, Water, Telecommunications & Energy Services Budget with two changes; adding the city logo to the island water tower and adding the city residents on Appleton Street to acquisitions.

Item IV. No one from the Gallery was heard on any topic of public concern to the Utility.

Item V. The motion by Comm. Smolinski, seconded by Comm. Merkes, was unanimously approved on roll call to adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

By: MARK L. ALLWARDT
President

ROY KORDUS
Secretary

NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL UNTIL ACTED UPON AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING, THEREFORE, ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION.